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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/551,941	09/14/2006	Johan Torsner	P17895-US1	3583
27045	7590	11/26/2008		
ERICSSON INC. 6300 LEGACY DRIVE M/S EVR 1-C-11 PLANO, TX 75024			EXAMINER DONADO, FRANK E	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/26/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/551,941

Applicant(s)

TORSNER, JOHAN

Examiner

FRANK DONADO

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 0914.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 October 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-85/86)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/05/07.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vayanos, et al (**US Patent No. 6,901,603**). From now on, Vayanos, et al, will be referred to as Vayanos.

Regarding claim 1, Vayanos teaches a method of reducing impact of transmission errors by means of a retransmission protocol, utilizing a retransmission loop involving packet radio transmissions from user equipment to a control element connected to one or more radio base stations, **(User equipment (UE) 106 is in communication with Node B 104 in a UMTS system, where a retransmission of packets is occurring from the UE to the Node B, a controller 1330 is connected to Node B, and the base station and the UE are part of a UTRAN system that includes a Radio Network Controller, Column 32, lines 31-32, Column 33, lines 24-26 and 35-37, Column 4, lines 13-21 and 44-47 and Figure 13),** wherein the user equipment radio transmissions are received at one or more radio base stations for

forwarding to the control element **(The packet is received by the system controller 1330 at Node B, where the system controller serves as the control element in Figure 13, Column 33, lines 24-26 and 35-39)**, the base station acknowledging, positively or negatively, transmissions from the user equipment and the control element acknowledges, positively or negatively, transmissions forwarded to it **(Column 33, lines 35-41)**.

Regarding claim 2, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 1, wherein for a process of retransmission, if same transmitted packet information content is received more than once, the received transmissions are combined **(Column 21, lines 5-14 and Figures 9A and 9B)**.

Regarding claim 3, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 2, wherein successive received packet transmissions of the same information content are combined in the base station prior to determining whether or not the radio base station should acknowledge the transmitted information content **(Step 958 of Figure 9B occurs as a result of combining a packet retransmission with a prior transmission, during which an attempt is made to recover the packet, and a NAK/ACK signal is transmitted back to the transmitter, in this case a UE, depending on whether or not the packet was recovered, Column 21, lines 10-13 and 39-51)**.

Regarding claims 4 and 5, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 2, wherein whether or not the packet information content is the same is determined by means of a new data indicator, and the new data indicator, accompanying packet information, is transmitted on a reliable control channel **(A separate new data indicator variable is maintained for each HARQ channel that is used to indicate whether or not a packet retransmission has occurred, Column 19, lines 24-26 and Column 20, lines 46-56).**

Regarding claims 6 and 7, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 2, wherein the process is identified by means of a process identity, and the process identity, accompanying packet information, is transmitted on a reliable control channel **(After a retransmission process is discovered, step 930 in Figure 9, the process returns to step 912 and subsequently 922, where a HARQ Process ID (HID) field is transmitted as part of a control message to indicate the channel being used in the current packet transmission, Column 20, lines 52-56 and 25-30).**

Regarding claims 8 and 9, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 1, wherein the control element reorders received packets, and the received packets are reordered into sequential order **(The controller 1330 in the Node B performs retransmission techniques that include re-ordering of recovered packets that had to be retransmitted, where the packet are reordered according to their**

transmission sequence numbers (TSN's), Column 2, lines 53-56, Column 33, lines 39-41, Column 21, lines 44-51 and Column 7, lines 37-42).

Regarding claim 11, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 9, wherein the sequential order is determined from MAC sequence number **(The TSN is part of the MAC frame, Figure 3).**

Regarding claim 12, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 1, wherein the method reduces delay of uplink transmissions, the delay being associated with the retransmissions **(A "stall avoidance" scheme is implemented by detecting activity on the HARQ channels, which includes the uplink channel and is used to prevent delays arising from discovering missing packets during the packet reordering process and deciding whether or not to continue trying to recover the missing packets, Column 9, lines 5-9 and 13-20, Column 10, lines 43-45 and 66-67 and Column 33, lines 35-41).**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vayanos, in view of Puuskari, et al (**US Patent No. 7,330,439**). From now on Puuskari, et al, will be referred to as Puuskari.

Regarding claim 10, Vayanos teaches the method according to claim 9. Vayanos does not teach the sequential order is determined from RLC sequence number. Puuskari teaches the reordering of packets in sequential order based on RLC header information that contains RLC sequence number information (**Column 6, lines 21-45**). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Vayanos, in view of Parkvall, and further in view of Massie, to reorder packets in sequential order based on the RLC sequence number for the benefit of transmission efficiency.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 6,618,375 refers to radio link protocol frame sorting mechanism for dynamic capacity wireless data channels.

US PG Publication 2003/0016698 refers to a method for resetting MAC layer entity in a W-CDMA communication system using HSDPA.

US PG Publication 2004/0042436 refers to a system for permitting control of the purging of a node B by the serving radio network controller.

US Patent No. 6,947,737 refers to a system and method of transmitting data messages between subscriber units communication with /between complimentary/ disparate networks.

US PG Publication 2002/0080719 refers to scheduling transmission of data over a transmission channel based on signal quality of a receive channel.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANK DONADO whose telephone number is (571) 270-5361. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 9:30 am-6 pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rafael Perez-Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-270-6361.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-273-8300.

Frank Donado
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/Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617